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STATEMENT SUPPLEMENTING THE REPORT *of the*
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ASSOCIATIONS,
CONCERNING STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS

In its studies of the Membership Basis as related to Student Associations, the Committee has found many interesting developments and significant trends. Out of the 678 Student Associations, including colored and Indian, known to be in existence, 432 submitted reports for the Year Book of 1922. Of those reporting to the Year Book, only 260 replied to the Committee's inquiry. It seems probable that this low figure may be explained by the fact that the inquiry was issued near the close of the college year and, therefore, may not have been received by many Associations; and by the further fact that fully four-fifths of the Student Associations have no graduate Secretaries and the work is directed entirely by volunteer student officers. Of those replying to the Committee's inquiry, 123, or forty-seven per cent, reported irregularities either in practice or in constitutional requirement. A study of these irregularities shows a trend towards the use of a personal statement of purpose. It is noteworthy that only thirty-two reported having found the alternate basis for membership, authorized by the Washington Convention, acceptable as a personal basis.

Finding this widespread variation and lack of uniformity, the Committee on Associations asked the various Student Councils, National, Regional, and State, to confer and cooperate with it in the endeavor to work out some uniform basis which might be generally accepted by all Student Associations.

Your Committee desires to acknowledge the splendid cooperation given to it in its study of the Student situation by the various Student Councils and by the Association of Student Secretaries. These representatives of our Student Movement have made an exhaustive study of the question of the Basis of Active Membership as it affects the Student Associations. As a result of these studies, the National Council, composed of two representatives from each of the several Field Councils, worked out a proposal of a Basis of Active Membership which they submitted for consideration to local Associations, State and Field Councils, and the State and Summer Student Conferences.

These processes of referendum, study and discussion are now completed. We believe the Brotherhood will share in our sense of gratitude that so largely they have resulted in unanimity of conclusion.

We sense a desire in a number of influential colleges in different sections of the country for a declaration of personal Christian purpose rather than the church membership requirement as a qualification for elective officers, but there is a far greater support of the present practice than of any other plan that has been suggested, viz., that the elective officers and delegates to the International Convention must be members of those churches recognized by the general Association Movement.

Recommendation II. That this present practice of office holding and Convention representation in Student Associations be continued.

We find complete agreement among all Student Association leaders concerning the need for a unifying statement of purpose and qualification for membership in Student Associations. The National Student Council has submitted to us the following statement of purpose and qualification for membership on which the Student Associations of the country are practically united:

- I. (a) To lead students to faith in God through Jesus Christ.
 - (b) To lead them into membership and service in the Christian Church.
 - (c) To promote their growth in Christian faith, especially through the study of the Bible and prayer.
 - (d) To influence them to devote themselves in united effort with all Christians to making the will of Christ effective in human society, and to extending the Kingdom of God throughout the world.
- II. Membership in a college Association shall be limited to those who declare themselves to be in sympathy with this statement of purpose and willing to make it their personal program of allegiance and service.

Recommendation III. That this statement of purpose and qualification for membership be adopted as an optional qualification for membership in Student Associations.